



COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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NEWS RELEASE



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2023 PROBATION SERVICES WEEK SPOTLIGHTS WORK PROBATION OFFICERS, STAFF DO TO BUILD SAFER COMMUNITIES

Probation Services Week takes place July 17-23, highlights impact of probation professionals

Santa Cruz County Chief Probation Officer Fernando Giraldo is pleased to announce the upcoming Probation Services Week, which will be held from July 17 to July 23, 2023. This special week aims to honor the invaluable contributions of probation professionals who work diligently to maintain community safety and provide support for justice-involved individuals undergoing rehabilitation.

In anticipation of Probation Services Week, Giraldo expressed their enthusiasm about the work probation officials do as a key part of the criminal justice system, linking together multiple partners with the important goal of promoting community wellbeing and safety. Modern probation officers serve as mentors, coaches, and agents of change, and their dedication and expertise enable them to help the safety of communities by guiding justice-involved individuals, giving them the opportunity and proper support for change.

“Our mission is to enhance community wellbeing and promote positive change in the lives of the people we serve. We do this by providing culturally responsive and evidence-based supervision, intervention, and advocacy services that center equity and are responsive to the diverse needs and strengths of our clients and communities,” Giraldo said.

Probation offers a transformative alternative to incarceration, empowering individuals to make positive changes and embark on a journey toward a brighter future. By connecting comprehensive services and addressing the unique needs of justice-involved individuals, probation plays a vital role in fostering community safety and restoring people to help achieve long-term public safety. Our probation officers, equipped with extensive education and specialized training, possess the expertise to skillfully manage the complex needs of justice-involved individuals while upholding the utmost commitment to community well-being.